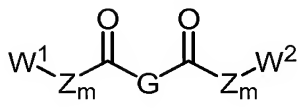
THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A compound of a formula **I**:



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein

(a) each occurrence of Z is independently CH_2, CH=CH, or phenyl, wherein each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 9, but when Z is phenyl then its associated m is 1;

(b) G is $(CH_2)_x$, $CH_2CH{=}CHCH_2$, CH=CH, CH_2-phenyl-CH_2, or phenyl, wherein x is 2, 3, or 4;

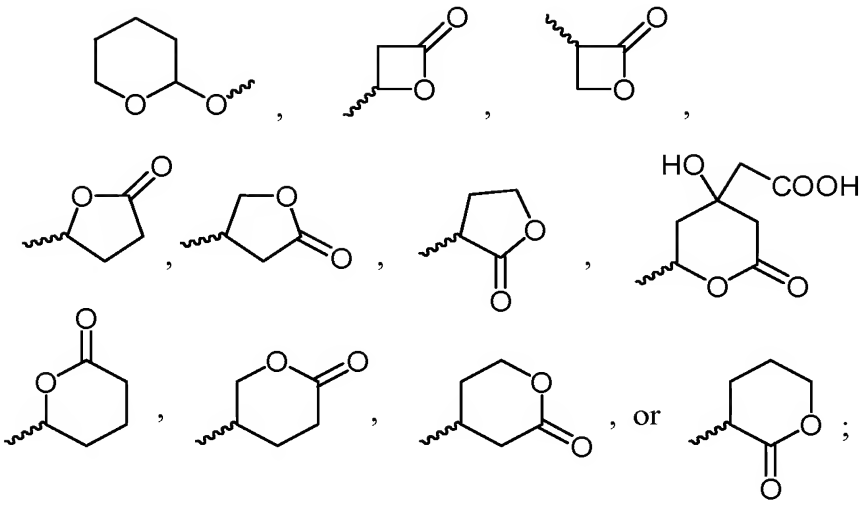
(c) W^1 and W^2 are independently L, V, $C(R^1)(R^2)$-$(CH_2)_c$-$C(R^3)(R^4)$-$(CH_2)_n$-Y, or $C(R^1)(R^2)$-$(CH_2)_c$-V, wherein c is 1 or 2 and n is an independent integer ranging from 0 to 4;

(d) R^1 and R^2 are independently CO_2H, $CO_2(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl or when W^1 or W^2 is $C(R^1)(R^2)$-$(CH_2)_c$-$C(R^3)(R^4)$-Y, then R^1 and R^2 can both be H, or R^1 and R^2 and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a $(C_3$-$C_7)$cycloakyl group;

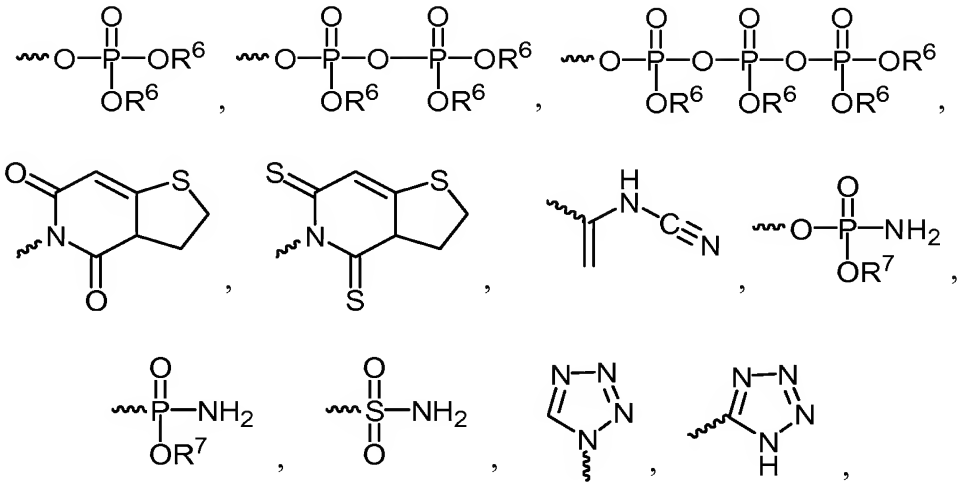
(e) R^3 and R^4 are independently H, OH, CO_2H, $CO_2(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkoxy, phenyl, benzyl, Cl, Br, CN, NO_2, or CF_3, with the proviso that when R^1 and R^2 are both H, then one of R^3 or R^4 is not H or R^3 and R^4 and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a $(C_3$-$C_7)$cycloakyl group;;

(f) L is $C(R^1)(R^2)$-$(CH_2)_n$-Y;

(g) V is



(h) Y is $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, OH, COOH, CHO, $COOR^5$, SO_3H,



where

(I) R^5 is $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(ii) each occurrence of R^6 is independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or phenyl groups; and

(iii) each occurrence of R^7 is independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl; and

provided that:

(i) if G is $(CH_2)x$, x is 4, each occurrence of Z is CH_2, each occurrence of m is 4, and W^1 is $-CH(CH_3)CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1;

(ii) if G is CH_2-phenyl-CH_2, each occurrence of Z is CH_2, each occurrence of m is 2, and W^1 is $-C(CH_3)_2CH(CO_2CH_2CH_3)_2$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1;

(iii) if G is CH_2-phenyl-CH_2, each occurrence of Z is CH_2, each occurrence of m is 2, and W^1 is $-C(CH_3)_2CH_2(CO_2CH_2CH_3)$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1;

(iv) if G is CH_2-phenyl-CH_2, each occurrence of Z is CH_2, each occurrence of m is 1, and W^1 is $-COCH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1;

(v) if G is $(CH_2)_x$, x is 4, each occurrence of Z is CH_2, each occurrence of m is 2, and W^1 is $-C(phenyl)_2CH_2CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1;

(vi) if G is CH=CH, each occurrence of Z is CH_2, each occurrence of m is 1, and W^1 is $-C(CH_3)_2CH_2(CO_2H)$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1; and

(vii) if G is phenyl, each occurrence of Z is CH_2, each occurrence of m is 1, and W^1 is $-C(phenyl)_2CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein:

(a) W^1 and W^2 are independently L, V, or $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH_2)_c$–V where c is 1 or 2; and

(b) R^1 or R^2 are independently $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl.

3. The compound of claim 1, wherein W^1 is L.

4. The compound of claim 1, wherein W^1 is V.

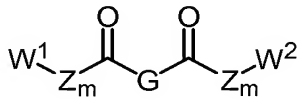
5. The compound of claim 1, wherein W^1 is $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH_2)_c$–$C(R^3)(R^4)$–$(CH_2)_n$-Y.

6. The compound of claim 1, wherein W^1 is $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH_2)_c$–V.

7. The compound of claim 1, wherein W^1 and W^2 are independent L groups.

8. The compound of claim 7, wherein each occurrence of Y is independently $(CH_2)_nOH$, $(CH_2)_nCOOR^5$, or $(CH_2)_nCOOH$.

9. A compound of the formula **Ia**:



Ia

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein

(a) each occurrence of Z is independently CH_2 or CH=CH, wherein each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 9;

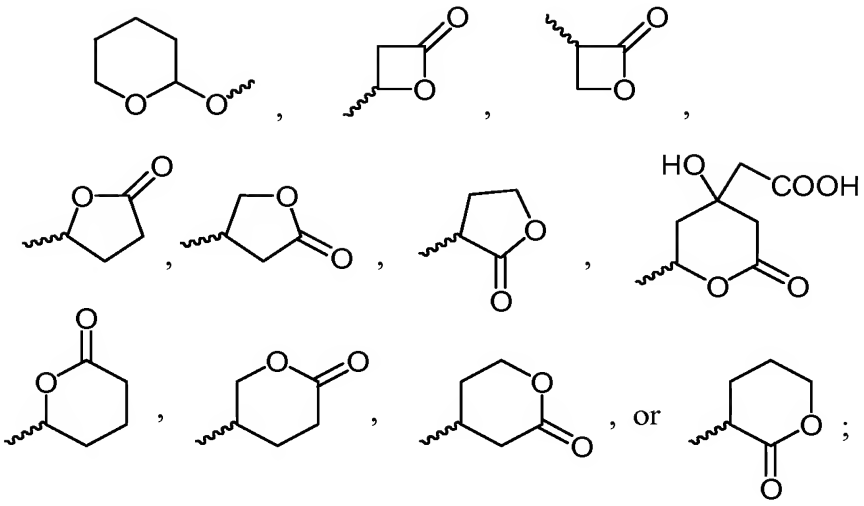
(b) G is $(CH_2)_x$, CH_2CH=$CHCH_2$, or CH=CH, where x is 2, 3, or 4;

(c) W^1 and W^2 are independently L, V, or $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH_2)_c$–V, where c is 1 or 2;

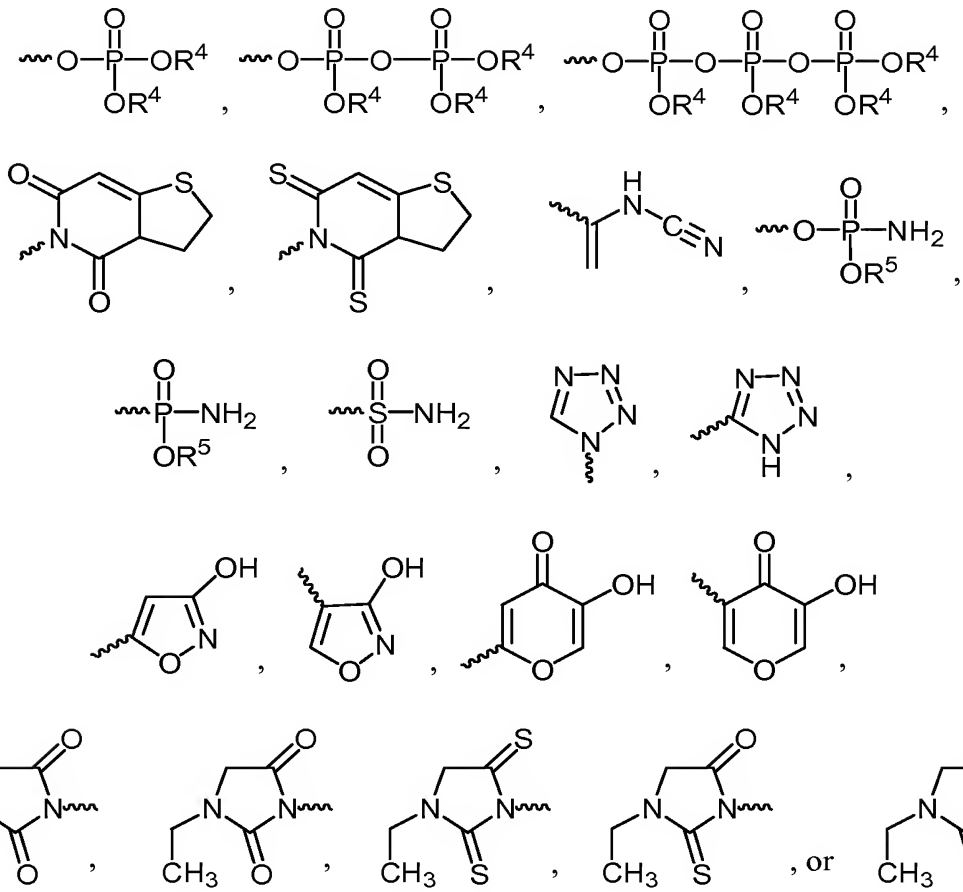
(d) each occurrence of R^1 and R^2 is independently CO_2H, $CO_2(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, benzyl, or R^1 and R^2 and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a $(C_3$-$C_7)$cycloakyl group;

(e) L is $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH_2)_n$–Y, where n is an independent integer ranging from 0 to 4;

(f) V is



(g) each occurrence of Y is independently $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, OH, COOH, CHO, $(CH_2)_nCOOR^3$, SO_3H,



where

(I) R^3 is $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(ii) each occurrence of R^4 is independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or phenyl groups; and

(iii) each occurrence of R^5 is independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl; and

provided that:

(i) if x is 4, each occurrence of Z is CH_2, each occurrence of m is 4, and W^1 is $-CH(CH_3)CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1;

(ii) if x is 4, each occurrence of Z is CH_2, each occurrence of m is 2, and W^1 is $-C(phenyl)_2CH_2CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1.

10. The compound of claim 9, wherein W^1 is L.

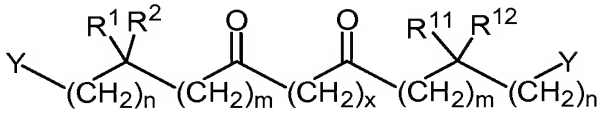
11. The compound of claim 9, wherein W^1 is V.

12. The compound of claim 9, wherein W^1 is $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH_2)_c$–V.

13. The compound of claim 9, wherein W^1 and W^2 are independent L groups.

14. The compound of claim 13, wherein each occurrence of Y is independently OH, $COOR^3$, or COOH.

15. A compound of the formula **Ib**



Ib

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein:

(a) each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 9;

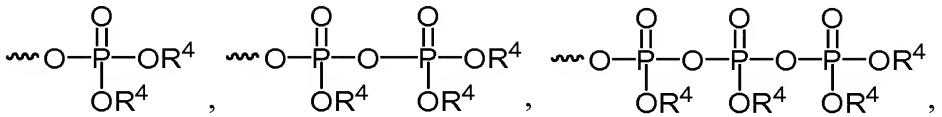
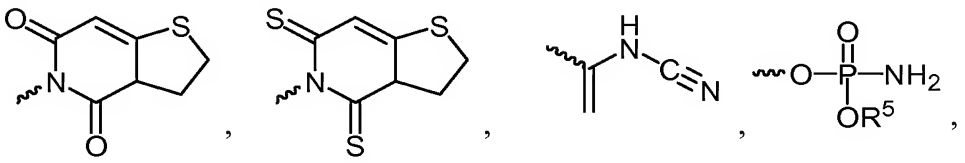
(b) x is 2, 3, or 4;

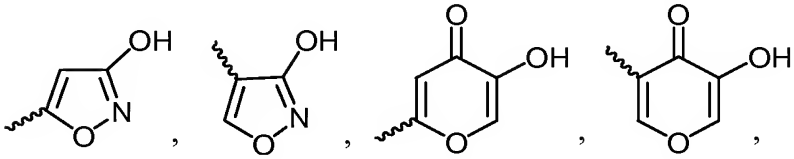
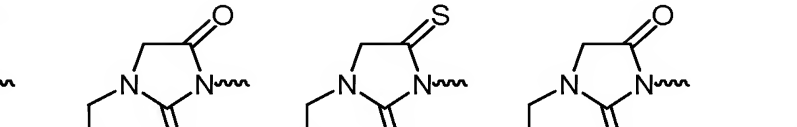
(c) n is an independent integer ranging from 0 to 4;

(d) each occurrence of R^1 and R^2 is independently CO_2H, $CO_2(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, benzyl, or R^1 and R^2 and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a $(C_3$-$C_7)$cycloakyl group;

(e) each occurrence of R^{11} and R^{12} is independently H, CO_2H, $CO_2(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, benzyl, or R^{11} and R^{12} and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a $(C_3$-$C_7)$cycloakyl group;

(f) each occurrence of Y is independently $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, OH, COOH, CHO, $COOR^3$, SO_3H,

where

(I) R^3 is $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(ii) each occurrence of R^4 is independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl and is unsubstituted or

substituted with one or two halo, OH, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or phenyl groups; and

(iii) each occurrence of R^5 is independently H, (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_2-C_6)alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6)alkynyl;

provided that:

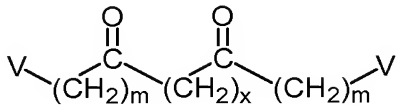
(i) if x is 4 each occurrence of m is 4, and W^1 is -$CH(CH_3)CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1;

(ii) if x is 4 occurrence of m is 2, and W^1 is -$C(phenyl)_2CH_2CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1.

16. The compound of claim 15, wherein each occurrence of Y is independently OH, $COOR^3$, or COOH.

17. The compound of claim 16, wherein each R^1 or R^2 is the same or different (C_1-C_6)alkyl group.

18. A compound of the formula **Ic**



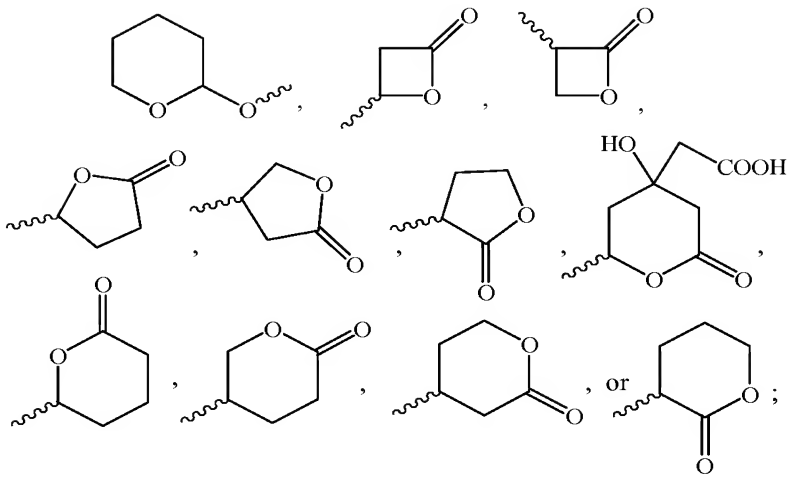
Ic

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein:

(a) each occurrence of m is an independent integer ranging from 1 to 9;

(b) x is 2, 3, or 4;

(c) V is



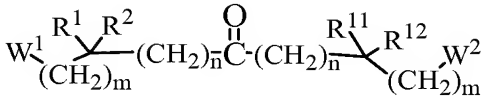
provided that:

(i) if x is 4 each occurrence of m is 4, and W^1 is $-CH(CH_3)CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1; and

(ii) if x is 4 each occurrence of m is 2, and W^1 is $-C(phenyl)_2CH_2CO_2H$, then W^2 is not the same as W^1.

19. A compound according to claim 1, having the formula 5-[2-(5-hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-pentyloxy)-ethoxy]-2,2-dimethyl-pentan-1-ol or 4-[3-(3,3-Dimethyl-4-oxo-butoxy)-propoxy]-2,2-dimethyl-butyric acid.

20. A compound of the formula **II**:



II

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein

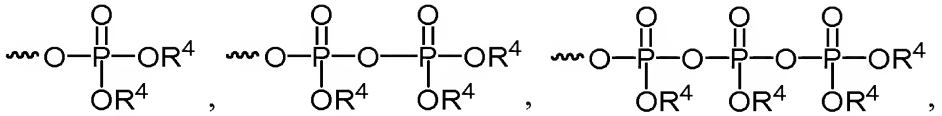
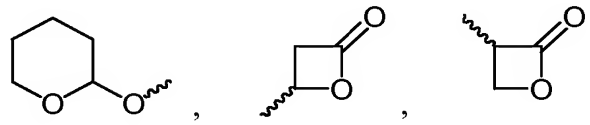
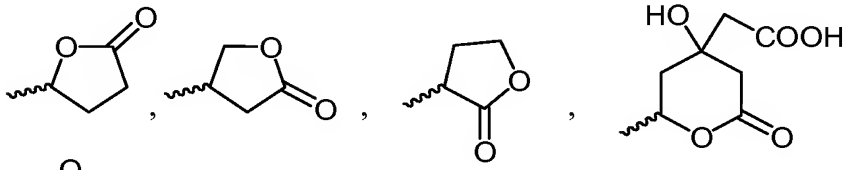
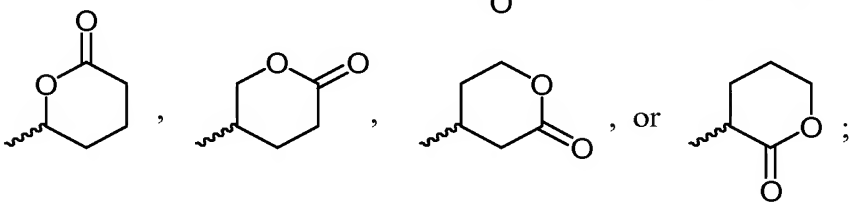
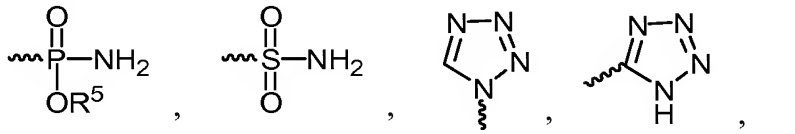
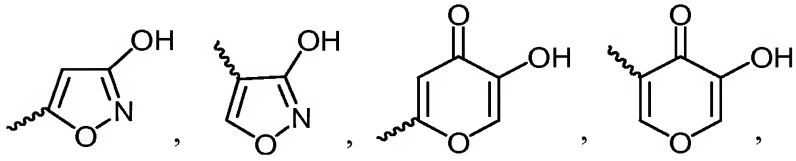
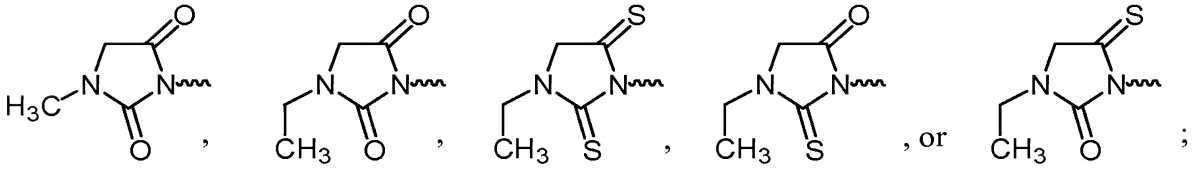
(a) R^1 and R^2 are independently CO_2H, $CO_2(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl; or R^1, R^2, and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a $(C_3\text{-}C_7)$cycloalkyl group;

(b) R^{11} and R^{12} are independently CO_2H, $CO_2(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl; or R^{11}, R^{12}, and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a $(C_3\text{-}C_7)$cycloalkyl group;

(c) n is an integer ranging from 1 to 6;

(d) each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 0 to 4;

(e) W^1 and W^2 are independently $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, CH_2OH, C(O)OH, CHO, $OC(O)R^3$, $C(O)OR^3$, SO_3H,

where

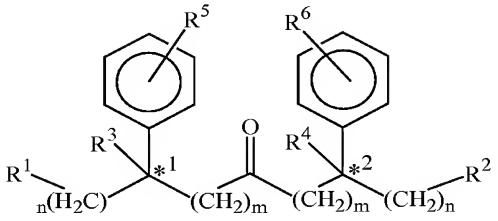
(I) R^3 is $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(ii) each occurrence of R^4 is independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$-$C_6)$alkynyl and is unsubstituted or

substituted with one or two halo, OH, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or phenyl groups;

(iii) each occurrence of R^5 is independently H, (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_2-C_6)alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6)alkynyl.

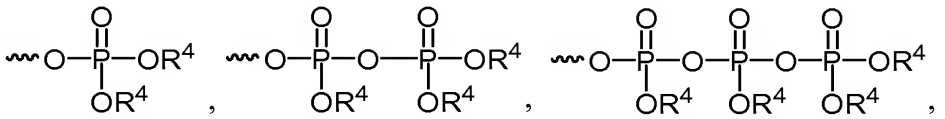
21. A compound of formula **IIa**:



IIa

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein

(a) R^1 and R^2 are OH, COOH, CHO, $COOR^7$, SO_3H,



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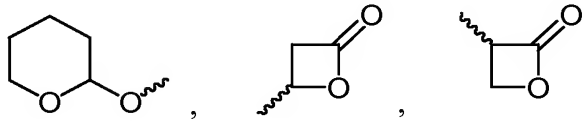

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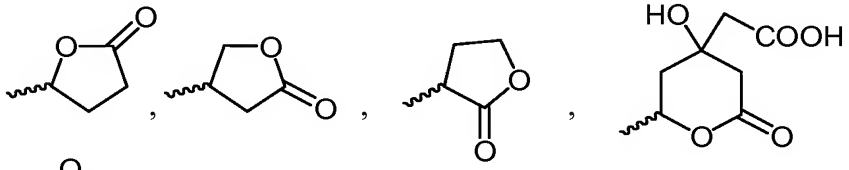

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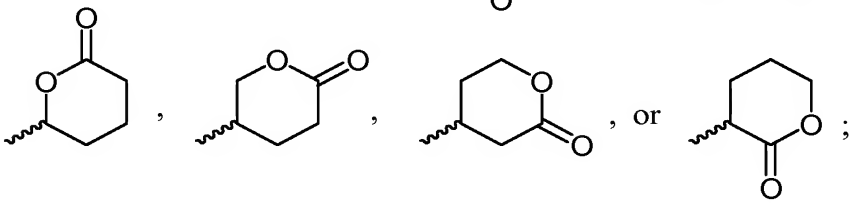

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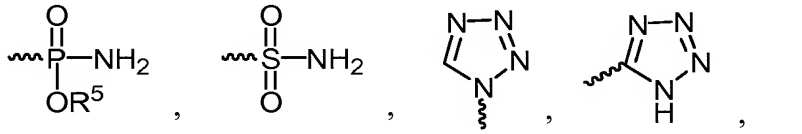

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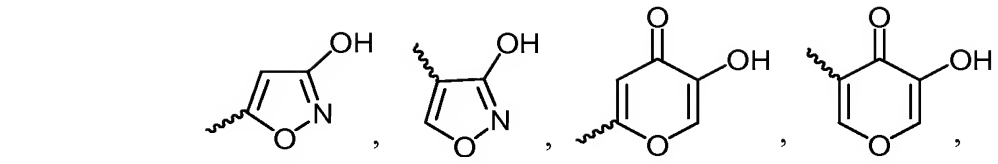
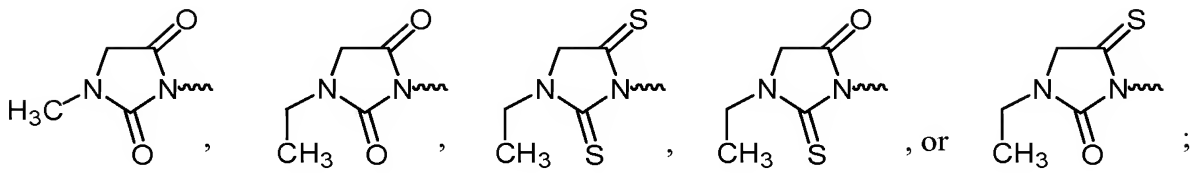



where

(I) R^7 is $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(ii) each occurrence of R^8 is independently H, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, $C_1\text{-}C_6$ alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(iii) each occurrence of R^9 is independently H, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl;

(b) R^3 and R^4 are CO_2H, $CO_2(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl;

(c) R^5 and R^6 are hydrogen, halogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkoxy, (C6)aryloxy, CN, or NO_2, $N(R^5)_2$ where R^5 is H, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$ alkyl, phenyl, or benzyl;

(d) each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 5;

(e) each occurrence of n is independently an integer ranging from 0 to 4; and

(f) $*^1$ and $*^2$ represent independent chiral-carbon centers, wherein each center may independently be R or S.

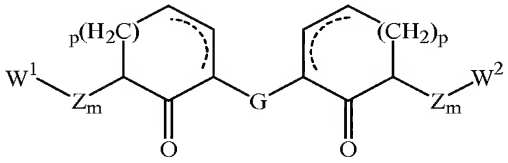
22. A compound as in claim 21 wherein $*^1$ is a chiral-carbon center of the stereochemical configuration R or substantially R.

23. A compound as in claim 21 wherein $*^1$ is a chiral-center of the stereochemical configuration S or substantially S.

24. A compound as in claim 21 wherein $*^2$ is a chiral-carbon center of the stereochemical configuration R or substantially R.

25. A compound as in claim 21 wherein $*^2$ is a chiral-center of the stereochemical configuration S or substantially S.

26. A compound of the formula **III**:



III

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein

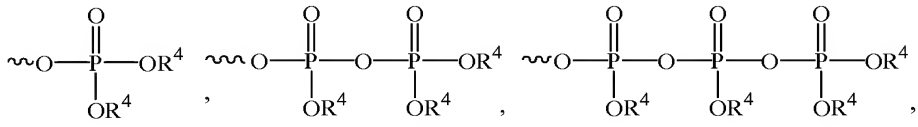
(a) each occurrence of Z is independently CH_2, CH=CH, or phenyl, where each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 5, but when Z is phenyl then its associated m is 1;

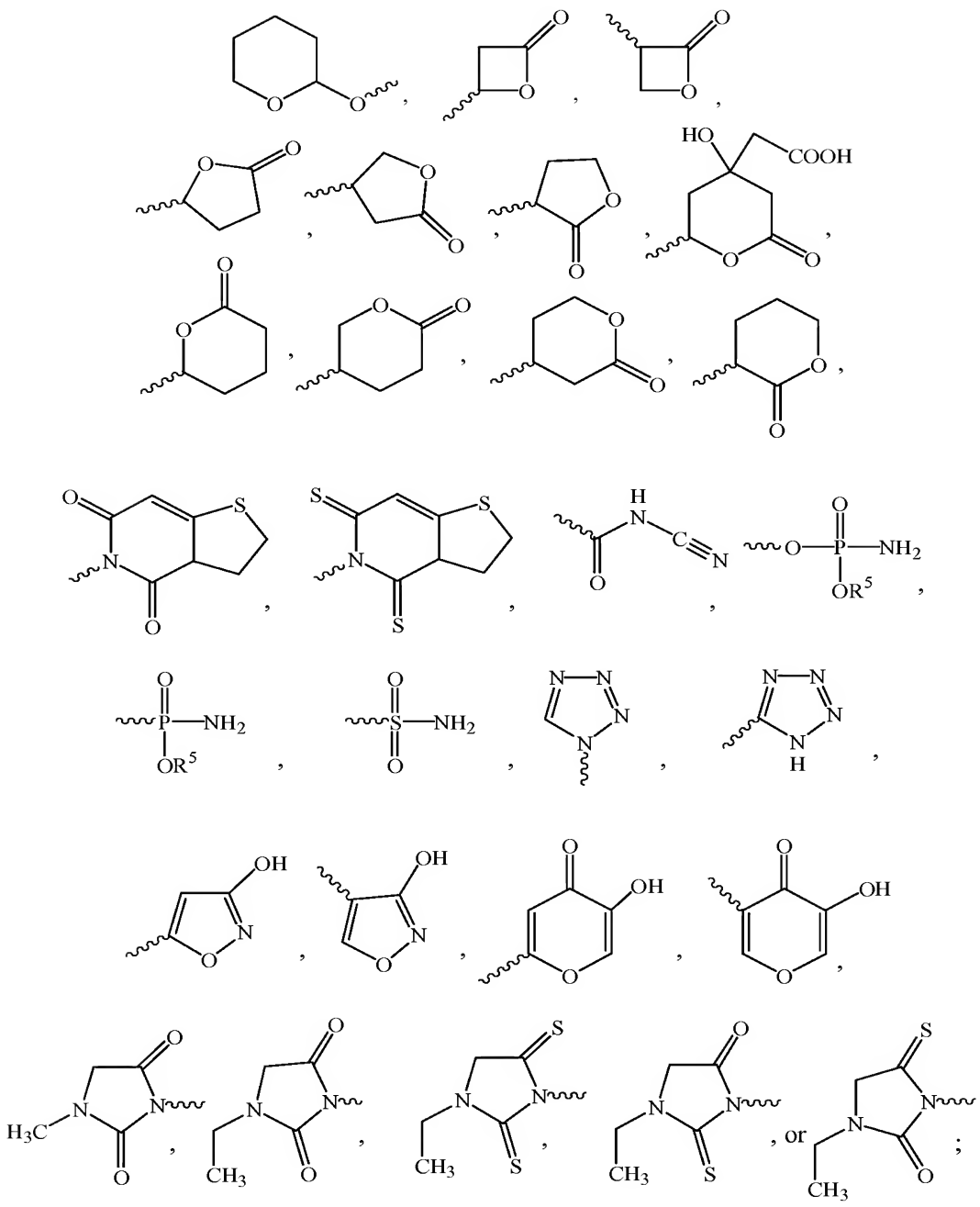
(b) G is $(CH_2)_x$, $CH_2CH{=}CHCH_2$, CH=CH, CH_2–phenyl–CH_2, or phenyl, where x is an integer ranging from 1 to 4;

(c) W^1 and W^2 are independently $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH_2)_n$–Y where n is an integer ranging from 0 to 4;

(d) R^1 and R^2 are independently CO_2H, $CO_2(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl or R^1 and R^2 are both H, or R^1, R^1, and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a $(C_3$–$C_7)$cycloalkyl group;

(e) Y is $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(CH_2)_nOH$, $(CH_2)_nCOOH$, $(CH_2)_nCHO$, $(CH_2)_nCOOR^3$, SO_3H,





where

(I) R^3 is $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(ii) each occurrence of R^4 is independently H, $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, C_1–C_6 alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(iii) each occurrence of R^5 is independently H, $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkynyl; and

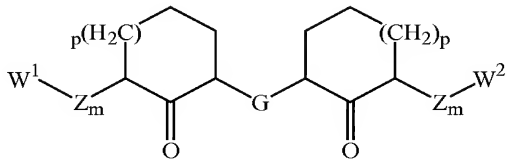
(f) each occurrence of p is independently 2 or 3 where the broken line represents an optional presence of one or more additional carbon-carbon bonds that when present complete one or more carbon-carbon double bonds.

27. The compound of claim 26, wherein W^1 and W^2 are independent $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH_2)_n$–Y groups, where n is an independent integer ranging from 0 to 4, and each occurrence of Y is independently OH, $COOR^4$, or COOH.

28. The compound of claim 26, wherein p is 0.

29. The compound of claim 26, wherein p is 1.

30. A compound of the formula **IIIa**:



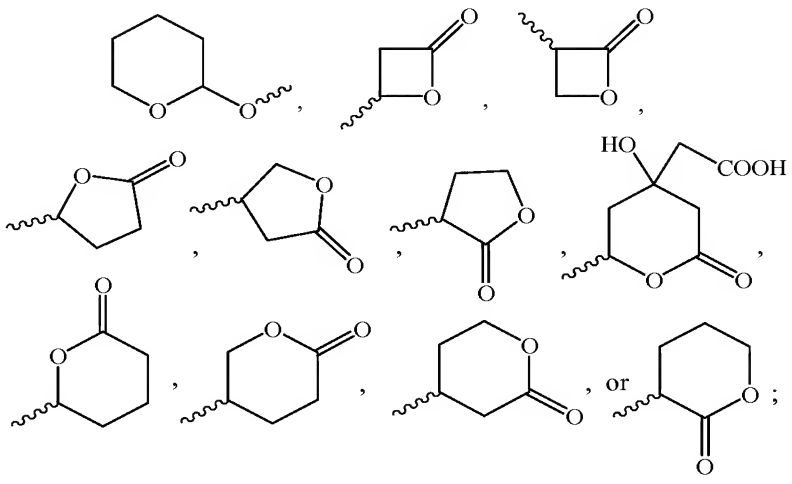
IIIa

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, clathrate thereof, wherein

(a) each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 5;

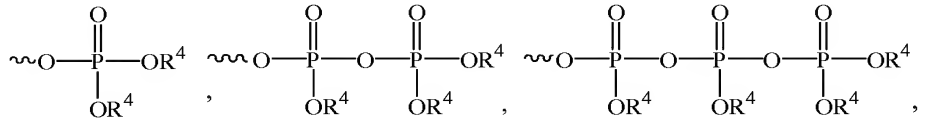
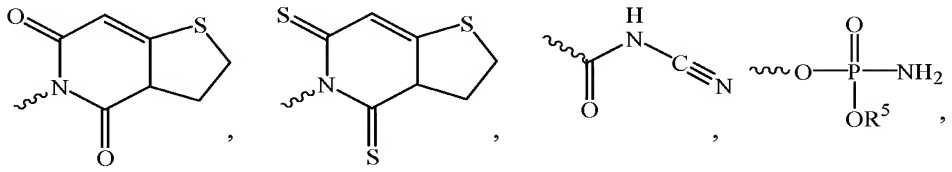
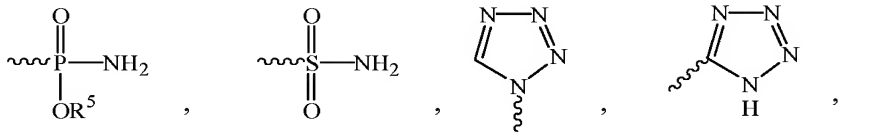
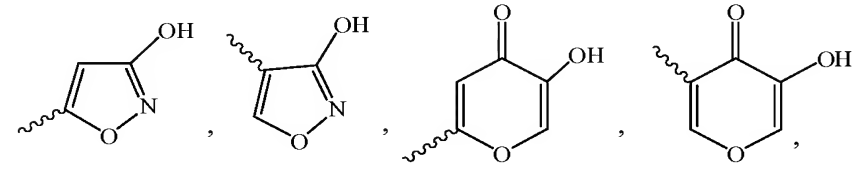
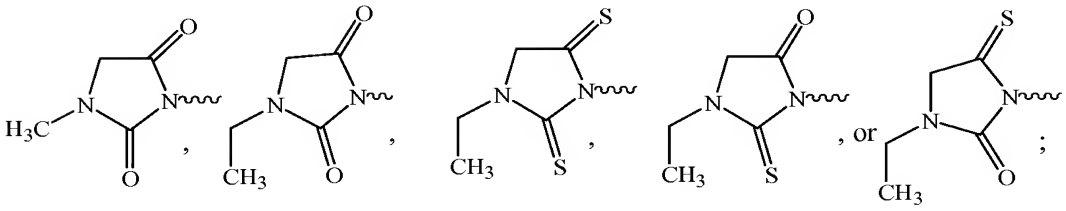
(b) x is an integer ranging from 1 to 4;

(c) W^1 and W^2 are independently $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH_2)_n$–Y;



(d) each occurrence of R^1 or R^2 is independently $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, benzyl, or R^1, R^1, and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a $(C_3$–$C_7)$cycloalkyl group;

(e) Y is $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, OH, COOH, CHO, $COOR^3$, SO_3H,

where

(I) R^3 is $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(ii) each occurrence of R^4 is independently H, $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH, C_1–C_6 alkoxy, or phenyl groups,

(iii) each occurrence of R^5 is independently H, $(C_1$–$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkenyl, or $(C_2$–$C_6)$alkynyl; and

(f) each occurrence of p is independently 0 or 1.

31. The compound of claim 30, wherein W^1 and W^2 are independent $C(R^1)(R^2)$–$(CH2)_n$–Y groups, where n is an integer from 0 to 4, and each occurrence of Y is independently OH, $COOR^3$, or COOH.

32. The compound of claim 30, wherein p is 0.

33. The compound of claim 30, wherein p is 1.

34. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, excipient, or diluent.

35. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the following compound: 6-(5,5-Dimethyl-6-hydroxy-hexane-1-sulfinyl)-2,2-dimethyl-hexan-1-ol or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, hydrates, solvates, clathrates, enantiomers, diasteriomers, racemates, or mixures of steroisomers thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, excipient, or diluent.

36. A method for treating or preventing a cardiovascular disease in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

37. A method for treating or preventing a dyslipidemia in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

38. A method for treating or preventing a dyslipoproteinemia in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

39. A method for treating or preventing a disorder of glucose metabolism in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

40. A method for treating or preventing Alzheimer's Disease in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

41. A method for treating or preventing Syndrome X or Metabolic Syndrome in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

42. A method for treating or preventing septicemia in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

43. A method for treating or preventing a thrombotic disorder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

44. A method for treating or preventing a peroxisome proliferator activated receptor associated disorder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

45. A method for treating or preventing obesity in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

46. A method for treating or preventing pancreatitis in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

47. A method for treating or preventing hypertension in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

48. A method for treating or preventing renal disease in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

49. A method for treating or preventing cancer in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

50. A method for treating or preventing inflammation in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

51. A method for treating or preventing impotence in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

52. A method for treating or preventing a neurodegenerative disease or disorder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

53. A method of inhibiting hepatic fatty acid synthesis in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

54. A method of inhibiting sterol synthesis in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

55. A method of treating or preventing metabolic syndrome disorders in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

56. A method of treating or preventing a disease or disorder that is capable of being treated or prevented by increasing HDL levels, which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

57. A method of treating or preventing a disease or disorder that is capable of being treated or prevented by lowering LDL levels, which comprises administering to such patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.